

00684.003313

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Masahiko YOKOTA, et al. ) Examiner: Unassigned  
Application No.: Unassigned ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
Filed: January 18, 2002 )  
For: IMAGE READING APPARATUS ) January 18, 2002

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please substitute the paragraph starting at page 9, line 7 and ending at page 9, line 10 with the following replacement paragraph. A marked-up copy of this paragraph, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

--Figures 4(a) and 4(b) are phantom views of the image reading portion of the image forming apparatus in accordance with the present invention, and shows the internal structure thereof.--

Please substitute the paragraphs starting at page 9, line 14 and ending at page 10, line 6 with the following replacement paragraphs. A marked-up copy of these paragraphs, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

--Figures 6(a) and 6(b) are schematic perspective views of the essential portions of the contact type image sensor and jump step, in the image reading portion in accordance with the present invention, and shows the positioning and structures thereof.

Figure 7 is a schematic drawing showing the behavior of the contact type image sensor in accordance with the present invention, during the period in which the contact type image sensor is displaced downwardly away from the original placement platen.

Figures 8(a) and 8(b) are schematic drawings showing the behavior of a comparative example of a contact type image sensor, during the period in which the contact type image sensor is displaced downward away from the original placement platen.

Figure 9 is a schematic perspective drawing showing the position of the spacer in the image reading apparatus in accordance with the present invention.--

Please substitute the paragraphs starting at page 10, line 10 and ending at page 10, line 22 with the following replacement paragraphs. A marked-up copy of these paragraphs, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

--Figures 11(a), 11(b), and 11(c) are schematic drawings showing the configuration and measurement of the through hole of the horizontally protruding portion of the contact type image sensor in accordance with the present invention.

Figures 12(a), 12(b), and 12(c) are schematic drawings showing the various jump step structures compatible with the image reading apparatus in accordance with the present invention.

Figures 13(a) and 13(b) are schematic drawings showing a concrete example of the guided member in the image reading portion in accordance with the present invention.--

Please substitute the paragraph starting at page 16, line 22 and ending at page 17, line 4 with the following replacement paragraph. A marked-up copy of this paragraph, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

--Referring to Figures 4(a) and 4(b), the contact type image sensor 108 is movable in the left and right directions of the apparatus, following the guide shaft 103c. It can be moved to any point within its movable range by a driving pulley 103b and an unshown motor. The contact type image sensor 108 is supported by the guiding shaft 103c with the interposition of a carriage 103a, being kept under the upward pressure generated by a spring 103e as a pressure generating means.--

Please substitute the paragraph starting at page 32, line 18 and ending at page 32, line 24 with the following replacement paragraph. A marked-up copy of this paragraph, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

--Further, as the contact type image sensor 108 becomes tilted as described above, the wall of the through hole 108c and boss 103g scratch each other, as shown in

Figures 8(a) and 8(b), making it more difficult for the contact type image sensor 108 to be smoothly displaced downward from the original placement glass platen 107 or 109.--

Please substitute the paragraph starting at page 35, line 19 and ending at page 35, line 24 with the following replacement paragraph. A marked-up copy of this paragraph, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

--Next, referring to Figures 12(a), 12(b), and 12(c), concrete examples of the configuration or the like of the jump step 109b will be described. Figures 12(a), 12(b), and 12(c) are schematic drawings showing the various jump steps in accordance with the present invention, different in configuration.--

Please substitute the paragraph starting at page 36, line 14 and ending at page 36, line 20 with the following replacement paragraph. A marked-up copy of this paragraph, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

--Next, referring to Figures 17(a) and 17(b), a concrete example of the configuration for the guided member 108d in accordance with the present invention will be described. Figures 13(a) and 13(b) are schematic drawings showing a concrete example of the guided member 108d, Figures 13(a) and 13(b) being perspective and sectional views, respectively.--

REMARKS

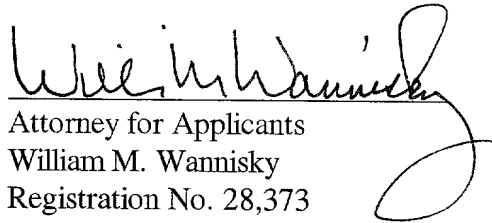
Claims 1 through 15 are present in the application. Claim 1 is the only independent claim. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been presented.

The specification has been amended to even more closely conform the same to the drawings. No new matter has been added.

Favorable consideration, entry of this Preliminary Amendment, and early passage to issuance of the application are earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 347-8100. All correspondence should be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES MADE TO  
SPECIFICATION**

The paragraph starting at page 9, line 7 and ending at page 9, line 10 has been amended as follows.

--Figures 4(a) and 4(b) are [Figure 4 is a] phantom views [view] of the image reading portion of the image forming apparatus in accordance with the present invention, and shows the internal structure thereof.--

The paragraphs starting at page 9, line 14 and ending at page 10, line 6 have been amended as follows.

--Figures 6(a) and 6(b) are [Figure 6 is a] schematic perspective views [view] of the essential portions of the contact type image sensor and jump step, in the image reading portion in accordance with the present invention, and shows the positioning and structures thereof.

Figure 7 is a schematic drawing [for] showing the behavior of the contact type image sensor in accordance with the present invention, during the period in which the contact type image sensor is displaced downwardly away from the original placement platen.

Figures 8(a) and 8(b) are [Figure 8 is a] schematic drawings [drawing for] showing the behavior of a comparative example of a contact type image sensor, during the period in which the contact type image sensor is displaced downward away from the original placement platen.

Figure 9 is a schematic perspective drawing [for] showing the position of the spacer in the image reading apparatus in accordance with the present invention.--

The paragraphs starting at page 10, line 10 and ending at page 10, line 22 have been amended as follows.

--Figures 11(a), 11(b), and 11(c) are [Figure 11 is a] schematic drawings [drawing for] showing the configuration and measurement of the through hole of the horizontally protruding portion of the contact type image sensor in accordance with the present invention.

Figures 12(a), 12(b), and 12(c) are [Figure 12 is a] schematic drawings [drawing for] showing the various jump step structures compatible with the image reading apparatus in accordance with the present invention.

Figures 13(a) and 13(b) are [Figure 13 is a] schematic drawings [drawing for] showing a concrete example of the guided member in the image reading portion in accordance with the present invention.--

The paragraph starting at page 16, line 22 and ending at page 17, line 4 has been amended as follows.

--Referring to Figures 4(a) and 4(b) [Figure 4], the contact type image sensor 108 is movable in the left and right directions of the apparatus, following the guide shaft 103c. It can be moved to any point within its movable range by a driving pulley 103b and an unshown motor. The contact type image sensor 108 is supported by the guiding

shaft 103c with the interposition of a carriage 103a, being kept under the upward pressure generated by a spring 103e as a pressure generating means.--

The paragraph starting at page 32, line 18 and ending at page 32, line 24 has been amended as follows.

--Further, as the contact type image sensor 108 becomes tilted as described above, the wall of the through hole 108c and boss 103g scratch each other, as shown in Figures 8(a) and 8(b) [Figure 8], making it more difficult for the contact type image sensor 108 to be smoothly displaced downward from the original placement glass platen 107 or 109.--

The paragraph starting at page 35, line 19 and ending at page 35, line 24 has been amended as follows.

--Next, referring to Figures 12(a), 12(b), and 12(c) [Figure 12], concrete examples of the configuration or the like of the jump step 109b will be described. Figures 12(a), 12(b), and 12(c) are [Figure 12 is a] schematic drawings [drawing] showing the various jump steps in accordance with the present invention, different in configuration.--

The paragraph starting at page 36, line 14 and ending at page 36, line 20 has been amended as follows.

--Next, referring to Figures 17(a) and 17(b) [Figure 13], a concrete example of the configuration for the guided member 108d in accordance with the present invention will be described. Figures 13(a) and 13(b) are [Figure 13 is a] schematic drawings



[drawing for] showing a concrete example of the guided member 108d, Figures 13(a) and 13(b) [(a) and (b)] being perspective and sectional views, respectively.--

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